Legal Notice

Notice of Application for an Amendment to Operating Permit No. 00163 for ES Stone and Structure, Inc.

ES Stone and Structure, Inc. (ES Stone) filed an application for an amendment (008) with the Department of Environmental Quality to reduce the number of sites from 21 to 8 by the removal from the permit of 3 sites (currently Sites #6, 8, and 9) that were withdrawn during the permitting process, 4 sites (currently Sites #3, 5, 7, and 10) that have had full bond release, and the combination of two sites: 1) Current Sites #13, 14, 16, 17 and 21 would be combined to proposed Site #6 and 2) Current Sites #18 and 19 would be combined to proposed Site #7. Additionally, permitted disturbance area would be added to Site #1 and proposed Site #7.

Site #1 is located in Golden Valley County: Township 6 North, Range 19 East, Sections 16 & 17.

<u>Proposed Site #6</u> is located in Wheatland County: Township 8 North, Range 15 East, Sections 34 & 35 and Township 7 North, Range 15 East, Sections 02 & 03.

<u>Proposed Site #7</u> is located in Cascade County: Township 22 North, Range 01 East, Sections 27, 28, & 29 and Township 22 North, Range 02 East, Sections 25, 26, & 30.

Mining on Site #1 and proposed Site #6 would expand the current practice of excavating surface sandstone. Mining would be to an average of 10 feet below ground surface. Rocks would be quarried with an excavator and then transported to a palleting/staging area using a skidsteer loader. The palleted rock would be loaded onto trucks for shipping off-site.

Mining on proposed Site #7 would expand current the practice of harvesting surface sandstone rocks. The depressions left by rock removal would generally be about one foot deep. Surface rock would continue to be removed using hand tools, an excavator, or backhoe and transported to a palleting/staging area using a skidsteer loader. The palleted rock would be loaded onto trucks for shipping off-site.

The amendment would add about 3,264 acres to the current operating permit area of about 5,686 acres.

The application can be viewed by the public at the DEQ office located at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT, by appointment only. For further information please contact:

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Hard Rock Mining Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
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Requests for application material can be made electronically via the following website: https://montanadeq.govqa.us/WEBAPP/rs/(S(yzboldobqpmpogyecmtoalix))/supporthome.aspx. General information about the application can be viewed at: http://deq.mt.gov/Mining/hardrock (the website for electronically requesting information is also linked from this page).